Preliminary Amendment -Attorney Docket No. Q68110

Please add the following new claims:

The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 5, wherein said polymer electrolyte 16. membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.

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The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode 17. assemblies according to claim 5 via separator plates

REMARKS

Multiple dependency is removed from the claims. The claims are not narrowed. Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

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Date: January 18, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

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The claims are amended as follows:

- 10. The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 1 or 5, wherein said polymer electrolyte membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.
- The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode seemblies according to claim 1-or-5 via separator plates.

Claims 16 and 17 are added as new claims.